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magnetic layer between the substrate and the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer.


16. (New) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 2, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a pseudo double-layer structure with a soft magnetic layer between the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer and the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

**REMARKS**

A change has been made to the specification by the above amendments. Claims 3, 4, 6, and 8-10 have been amended and claims 11-16 have been added to remove multiple dependency. Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Attachment to Preliminary Amendment**

**Marked-up copy of Claims 3, 4, 6, and 8-10**

3. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the crystal growth discontinuation layer has a thickness no greater than 20 nm.

4. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the crystal growth discontinuation layer is formed of at least one material selected from the group consisting of Ti, Ta, Permalloy, and an alloy of these materials.

6. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCr alloy.

8. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], further comprising a protective layer and a lubricant layer sequentially on the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

9. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a double-layer structure with including a soft magnetic layer between the substrate and the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer.

10. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a pseudo double-layer structure with a soft magnetic layer between the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer and the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

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